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GERMANY WOULD KEEP CONQUERED LANDS IF NECESSARY TO ASSURE NATION'S SAFETY

OSCAR S. STRAUS NAMED AS M'CALL'S SUCCESSOR; WOOD REFUSES TO ANSWER

Contempt Proceedings Started When Wood Won't Tell of \$10,000 Loan.

BANKS AGAIN HEARD. He Is Asked About the Business of Concern That Once Belonged to Wood.

ALBANY, Dec. 9.—Oscar S. Straus of New York, former United States Ambassador to Turkey and Progressive candidate for Governor in 1912, was named by Gov. Whitman to-day as member and chairman of the down-State Public Service Commission to succeed Edward E. McCall.

The Governor declined to comment on the appointment except to say that Mr. Straus had accepted the position and expected to qualify soon.

The Governor was asked if Mr. Straus was appointed as a Republican or a Progressive, but was non-committal.

The appointment came as a surprise to official Albany, but received favorable comment about the Capitol.

At the time the appointment of Mr. Straus was announced it was said at his home that he was out on an all day motoring trip and was not expected home before this evening. He did not visit his office at No. 42 Warren Street this morning.

When Senator Thompson, chairman of the Public Service Investigating Committee, heard of Mr. Straus's appointment he said: "I am sure there is no politics in that appointment."

WOOD GETS DEFIANT WHEN HE IS ASKED ABOUT LOAN OF \$10,000 HE GOT

Counsel for the Thompson Investigating Committee, inquiring into the affairs of the Public Service Commission, was this afternoon instructed by Senator Thompson to take steps against Public Service Commissioner Robert Colgate Wood on a charge of contempt of court.

Commissioner Wood was a witness before the committee and was being questioned by Senator Thompson regarding his admission that shortly before he was appointed a Commissioner he had borrowed \$10,000 from his uncle and brother-in-law, Commissioner Woods was asked why he had borrowed the money and refused to answer.

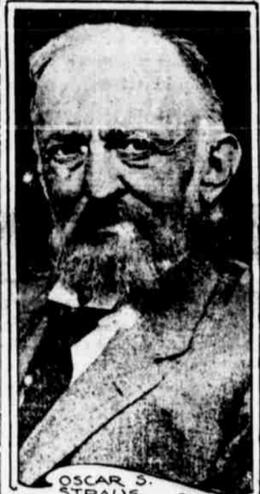
A yellow dog fund of \$58,000 that was used about a year ago in connection with the case.

(Continued on Second Page.)

MYSTERY IN FINDING OF GIRL'S CHARRED BODY

(Special to The Evening World.) NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 9.—Mystery surrounds the finding of a charred body believed to be that of a school girl here to-day. The corpse which had shreds of clothing hanging to it, was found in the front hallway of a fashionable residence on Third Street. There were blood stains on the ground where the body was found. A full force of detectives have been placed on the case.

FORMER AMBASSADOR NAMED NEW HEAD OF PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD



BOY BANDITS ROPE TWO GIRLS TOGETHER; ESCAPE WITH \$7,000

Also Tie Watchman to Chair in Chicago Building and Leave Three Helpless.

CHICAGO, Dec. 9.—Three boy bandits to-day held up Miss Emma Schlinko, 24 years old, cashier of the North Side Branch of the Prudential Life Insurance Company, tied her and Mamie Hain, a clerk together in a hall of the company's building and escaped with \$7,000 in cash.

When police arrived they found Lars Wood, watchman, tied to a chair and the two young women roped on the stairway leading to the office.

The robbers attacked the cashier as she was returning from a safety deposit vault with the money in a satchel.

GERMAN BOYS NOT IN WAR

Berlin Denies Statements About Calling Them Out.

AMSTERDAM, via London, Dec. 9.—Replying to a statement in the French Chamber of Deputies that Germany last year called up the recruits of the class of 1914 and has now incorporated in the army all but one section of the class of 1917, a German official statement received here from Berlin says: "This statement is wrong. The class of 1914 has not even yet been wholly incorporated, and the class of 1917 has not been called up."

Wants British Parliament Session Extended.

LONDON, Dec. 9.—A bill to continue the present Parliament beyond the five-year period and postpone a general election during the war was introduced in the House of Commons to-day by Sir John Simon, Secretary of State for Home Affairs. The bill makes the life of the present Parliament six instead of five years, extending it to January 31, 1917, and treats the year 1918 for the purpose of the active Parliament as if it followed immediately on 1914.

SHOT HIS FIANCEE WHEN SHE BALKED AT THEIR WEDDING

Brennan Chased Mabel Haitb as Crowd Looked On, Then Fired on Her in Hallway.

GIRL RAN FOR LIFE.

Crowd Saw Youth With Pistol and Girl Screaming but None Interfere.

Angered by her refusal to marry him after they had been engaged for several months, William Brennan, eighteen years old, of No. 1501 First Avenue, shot Miss Mabel Haitb, twenty-one years old, of No. 550 East Eighty-sixth Street, in a hallway on East Seventy-eighth Street, where she ran to escape him this morning. The young woman is in the Reception Hospital and will probably die. Brennan surrendered immediately after the shooting.

Brennan had planned the shooting of the young woman two weeks ago, when he first suspected she did not want to marry him. At that time he met her to go to the City Clerk's office for a marriage license and she told him they would have to get a witness. He understood that a witness was not required and believed the girl was deceiving him.

Brooding over it he went to Jersey City and bought a revolver with the apparent intention of killing her if she again refused to accompany him to the Marriage License Bureau.

He arranged an appointment for her to meet him at Fifty-fourth Street and First Avenue at 2:30 this morning. He was there for a half hour before she arrived, and when she came along he impatiently asked her where was the witness she had promised to bring along.

"Will I don't want to get married yet," the girl said. "I'm young and so are you. Let us forget about it for a time at least."

Brennan threatened her and raised his voice until she started to walk hurriedly away. He followed her up First Avenue pleading with her. She turned east on Seventy-eighth Street and at Avenue A Brennan suddenly drew the revolver. She heard him threaten, turned, and when she saw the revolver started to run.

Screaming for help, the young woman turned into the hallway of a tenement at No. 551 East Seventy-eighth Street. In a half swoon she fell upon the stairs in the hallway. A second later Brennan entered and fired at her. The bullet pierced her right lung and lodged in her abdomen. When witnesses of the shooting followed Patrolman Gamble into the hall a moment later they saw Brennan kneeling at the side of the girl. The revolver was on the floor at her side. She was unconscious.

"Here I am," Brennan said to Gamble. "I did it, and I am ready to go with you."

KITCHENER ATTENDS NEW COUNCIL OF WAR

With Sir Edward Grey He Goes to Paris for To-day's Session.

LONDON, Dec. 9.—Edward Grey, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and Field Marshal Earl Kitchener, the Secretary for War, went to Paris yesterday to confer with the French Government, it was officially announced this afternoon.

ENGLAND YIELDS IN HOCKING CASE, U.S. ENVOY CABLES

Will Not Requisition Any Vessels of the American Transatlantic Company.

PRESSURE BY WILSON.

Wants Prompt Action on All Sea Outrages, Whether Seizure or Sinking of Ships.

By Samuel M. Williams. (Special Staff Correspondent of The Evening World.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Action took the place of words to-day in Government circles. President Wilson put pressure on executive departments to push vigorously ahead in the many confusing problems, both foreign and domestic, growing out of the Old World war. Here are some of the developments of the day:

Secretary of State Lansing announced the scoring of an important point in the controversy with England over seizure of vessels flying the American flag.

Attorney General Gregory summoned District Attorney Snowden Marshall of New York for conference on the vigorous prosecution of "hypnotized" plotters and conspirators against the peace and neutrality of the United States.

Congressman James R. Mann, leader of Republicans in the House, who recently announced the Administration as "characterized by inefficiency and incapacity," called on President Wilson to join in non-partisan support of national preparedness.

Policy of prompt action on all sea outrages instituted, whether mere seizures of cargo ships by England or submarine attacks by the Central Powers.

The text of the note to Austria demanding reparation and the text of the note to the Ancona is to be given out as soon as the official telegram reaches Vienna.

Ambassador Page at London advised the State Department to-day that Great Britain had acceded to the American protest against the requisitioning of ships of the American Transatlantic Company.

Test cases will be made of the steamers Hocking and Genesee, which will not be requisitioned but held pending decision of the prize court. In the meantime Great Britain assures the United States that no other vessels of the company will be seized.

The Hocking and Genesee, as well as other ships belonging to the American Company, were seized because of suspicions that they had German interests. The company has denied to the State Department that a single share of its stock is held by any person other than American citizens.

88TH HOUR CYCLE SCORE.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Miles, Laps. Includes Grenda and Hill, McNamara and Spears, Fogler and Carman, Lawrence and Magin, Egg and Dupuy, Drobach and Corry, Ryan and Thomas, Mitten and Hansen, Moran and Walther, Eaton and Madden, Sorens and Linart, Hanley and Halstead, Sullivan and Anderson, Suter and Madonna, Rudi-Russi and Van derstuyff.

"KISS OF HEAVEN" KETCHUM WROTE, AND WANTED MORE

Begged Mother-in-Law to Patch Up Row With Girl He Later Married.

LETTER READ IN COURT.

"Knew Prettier Girls," but One He Wedded Was in Class of Her Own.

The letters of a love smitten lawyer to his prospective mother-in-law, philosophizing on the whims of Cupid to-day occupied the attention of Supreme Court Justice Blanchard when the separation suit brought by Ada Brown Ketchum against Everett P. Ketchum, wealthy lawyer and Yale graduate, was resumed.

Mrs. Ada Denise Brown, the mother-in-law, who is a social leader in Aarbury Park, produced the letters during her re-direct examination. On Tuesday Mrs. Brown qualified as an expert on kissing by testifying that a soul kiss meant a lingering kiss.

The first letter, written in November last year, a month before the wedding took place, was as follows:

"Dear Mother: God seems to have blessed you with the facility to understand children. If I had been surrounded by demons instead of an angel like Ada things would have been different. I have been tied to a woman who had nothing in common with me, and I had nothing to build up. I was afraid to leave her. My brain was sick and tired. My brain was handicapped and my nerves were irritated. My brain said 'stay by the woman,' my nerve said 'get away.' I decided to experiment with my nerves, and they got me away quicker than you can say Jack Robinson.

"Mother, I was afraid of women and of loneliness. I thought it would free my soul to get away from that woman, and now, mother, why doesn't Ada let me propose again? I have a general release in the Kelly-Ketchum affair [the woman referred to as his former acquaintance?]. I wonder if I am a regular Romeo? I can't live without a woman's love. I wonder if Ada will become my Juliet? I could love Ada's little finger more than anything else in this world—even all the pretty girls I know. When she gave me a real kiss I thought I was in heaven. "Mother, I wish you and I could be perfectly happy by getting married. If I were married Ada could brave me up with a couple of kisses. And, Mother, Dec. 2 is my birthday, and it would seem like a gift from above to be permitted to see Ada."

At this juncture Attorney Abraham Levy interrupted the reading of the letter to ask what Ketchum meant by the writing that he wished he and the witness were married.

"Did he think he ought to have married you?" asked Mr. Levy.

"Oh, no, no," she replied. "He simply wanted to help me along. I am a widow and he wanted me to marry some nice man."

"Of course, you never made love to your son-in-law?" asked the lawyer.

"How absurd!" replied Mrs. Brown. "Why, I did not see him until long after he began courting my daughter."

Most of the other newspapers refer to the message with approval.

GERMAN CHANCELLOR, WHO TOLD REICHSTAG STAND UPON PEACE



CHANCELLOR VON BETHMANN-HOLLWEG.

SAYS GERMAN WAR TO WIN AMERICA IS SURE TO COME

Leading Frenchman Positive Such a Conflict Is "Written in Book of Destiny."

PARIS, Dec. 9.—Under the caption "Gulliver Wakes Up," Joseph Reinach, political writer, in an article in the Figaro, comments at length on President Wilson's message to Congress. He declares that the message was animated by righteous anger, although not altogether free from metaphysics. It is evident, says M. Reinach, that the President was moved to the deepest indignation by the revelations in the trial of the director and several employees of the Hamburg-American Steamship Line on a charge of conspiring to defraud the Government.

"The more one reflects," says M. Reinach, "the more one is convinced that the economic and political absorption of America is one of the great secret designs of the German Empire, and that, consequently, nothing is more inevitable than an eventual conflict between Germany and the United States. Such a war is written in the great book of destiny. None can efface the writing. Human nature is not absolute. It is limited by nature and the logic of things. It is for America to decide whether to let Germany choose the hour or choose it herself."

GERMAN REICHSTAG BACKS CHANCELLOR IN DECLARING THE ALLIES MUST ASK PEACE

"Folly for Empire to Try to End War Now," He Declares, and a Socialist Says Alsace and Lorraine Will Never Be Given Up.

GERMANY HAS ALL SHE NEEDS TO KEEP UP FIGHT

BERLIN, via wireless to Sayville, L. I., Dec. 9.—Speaking before crowded galleries in the Reichstag to-day, and following yesterday his conference with Emperor William, Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg made known Germany's position regarding peace.

"We do not fight in order to subjugate other nations," said the Chancellor. "We fight for the protection of our life and liberty. For the German Government the war has always been what it was at the beginning—a war of defense for the German nation and for her future."

"The war can be terminated only by a peace which will give the certitude that war will not return. We all agree about that. There lies and there always will lie the root of our strength."

The address of Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, which has been awaited, with extraordinary interest, was made in response to the following Socialist interpellation made by Dr. Philip Scheideman: "Is the Imperial Chancellor ready to give information as to the conditions under which he would be willing to enter into peace negotiations?"

After the Chancellor finished his reply the other parties made a joint declaration approving the Chancellor's utterances and endorsing the view that in the conditions of peace, made after the war, there must be guarantees for Germany's safety, even if this implies annexation of territory.

Dr. Landberg, Socialist leader, in a speech, severely condemned the Socialist Liebknecht for attempting to interrupt the Chancellor.

"Germans of all classes," he said, "including the workingmen, are unanimous that whosoever dares attempt to cut even the smallest slice out of the body of the German Empire will meet with general German resistance until it is taken out of his hands."

The applause grew stronger when Landberg said he and his fellow Socialists violently protest against any French intentions to annex Alsace-Lorraine.

Enthusiastic cheers filled the Chamber as the Chancellor spoke. At first there was tense silence throughout the whole house and the galleries. This was soon interrupted by vigorous signs of assent.

FOLLY FOR GERMANY TO SEEK PEACE NOW.

"As long as in the countries of our enemies the guilt and ignorance of statesmen are entangled with confusion of public opinion, it would be folly for Germany to make proposals which would not shorten but lengthen the duration of the war," said the Chancellor.

"First the masks must be torn from their faces. At present they speak of a war of annihilation against us. We have to consider this fact—that theoretical arguments for peace or proposals for peace will not advance us; they will not bring the end nearer."

"If our enemies make peace proposals compatible with Germany's dignity and safety, then we shall always be ready to discuss them."

"Fully conscious of our unshaken military successes, we decline the responsibility for the continuation of the misery which now fills Europe and the whole world. Nobody can say that we are continuing the war because we want to conquer this or that country as a pledge."

The Chancellor declared that the prospects of peace discussion in the Reichstag had excited great expectation and much satisfaction in the countries of Germany's enemies. That this feeling should prevail was incomprehensible, in view of Germany's successes in Serbia after opening the road toward her Turkish allies and after threatening the most vulnerable points of the British Empire.

ACCUSES THE ALLIES OF BRUTALITY.

Although this situation, he said, would explain the desire of Germany's enemies for peace, none of them have made any overtures. They rather cling to the intentions which they publicly had announced at the beginning of the war, he said, with "naive brutality."

The Chancellor reviewed recent utterances about possible peace conditions that have come from Germany's enemies. He mentioned among these the handing over of Alsace-Lorraine to the French, the annihilation of so-called Prussian militarism, the expulsion of the Turks from Europe, the